RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
MAY 18 2006

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (currently amended): A playback device comprising:

"Do NOT enter" Pub 6/16/06

reading means for reading a string of uniform sized blocks where variable-rate encoded audio information is distributed over successive non-uniform sized audio units that each comprise one or more audio packets distributed among the blocks;

data selection means for selecting one or more block headers and determining the ~~presence of the~~ start of an audio unit in the block using the block header of the block; and

assembling means for assembling audio units from said blocks using said block headers, and consequently assembling an audio unit from the audio packets.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The playback device of claim 12, wherein the data selection means ~~determine~~ determines the presence of a start of an audio unit in a block using a logical non-audio unit start indicator present in a block header.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The playback device of claim 12, wherein the data selection means ~~determine~~ determines the presence of a start of an audio unit

PAGE 2/3 * RCVD AT 5/18/2006 4:31:35 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-2/18 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID:914 332 0615 * DURATION (mm-ss):01-04